THE Suffering CASE OF William Gutheridge,

Of *Banwell* in *Sommerſetſhire*, Truly Stated, and Committed to the Tender Conſideration of all True *Engliſh* Men.

ABout the Year 1676. *James Croſman*, Vicar of *Banwell* and *Puckſon* in *Sommerſetſhire*, procured a Writ of Attachment againſt the ſaid *William Gutheridge*, becauſe for Conſcience ſake he could not Swear to an Anſwer to his Bill in the *Exchequer* for ſmall Tythes; and by Vertue thereof had him to *Ilcheſter* Goal, and kept him there Four Years. The Value of the ſaid Tythes appears by the Affidavits of three men to be between Forty and Fifty Shillings a Year; as alſo by the Certificate of Ten ſubſtantial Men of the Neighbourhood, Witneſſed under their Hands; For which, after Four Years Impriſonment at *Ilcheſter*, he, with *Thomas Tegg*, an Impropriator, had him up to the *Fleet* Priſon in *London*, where he hath remained about Nine Years; and while ſo a Priſoner, the ſaid *James Croſman*, cauſed him to be Indicted at the Quarter Seſſions in *Sommerſetſhire*, upon the Statute of Recuſancy, for being Abſent from his Pariſh Church Eleven Months: the Penalty Two Hundred and Twenty Pounds, which put him to great Trouble and Charges. And not only this, but hath Proſecuted him in the *Exchequer*, and hath Sworn his ſmall Tythes to be worth Six Pounds ten Shillings a Year; and thereupon hath obtained a Sequeſtration againſt him, and hath Enter'd upon his Goods and Chattels, to the value of One Hundred and Fifty one Pounds ſeven Shillings, as appears by the Appraiſement that he and the Sequeſtrators have Returned into the Court of *Exchequer*, but are really worth about twice as much. And hath alſo Seized upon his Lands and Tenements, to the value of Sixty or Seventy Pounds a Year, which the Sequeſtrators, by the direction of the ſaid *James Croſman*, keeps in their hands; and notwithſtanding, keeps the ſaid *William Gutheridge* in Priſon, ſaying, He ſhall never come out, he being ſeparate a Hundred Miles from his Wife and Family. And thus deprived of his Eſtate by the unheard of Cruelty of this Prieſt *James Croſman*, and his Mercileſs Proceedings.

William Gutheridge.

79987